

Appl. No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) An In-Mould labelling apparatus comprising:

a multi-portion body defining a mould void and at least one conduit for injecting material into the mould void;

a flexible label located in the mould void; and

a plurality of clamping members extending at least partially into the mould void for clamping a , wherein the clamping members clamp the flexible label at its perimeter within the mould void.

16. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the multi-portion body comprises a mould cavity, a label location core and a mould core arranged for relative movement and having a first injection configuration in which they co-operate to define the mould void and clamp the label within the mould void and a second non-injection configuration for releasing a moulded article.

17. (Currently amended) An In-Mould labeling apparatus comprising:

Appl. No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

a multi-portion body defining a mould void and at least one conduit for injecting material into the mould void; and

a plurality of clamping members extending at least partially into the mould void ~~for clamping, wherein the~~ clamping members are adapted to clamp a flexible label within the mould void,

wherein the multi-portion body comprises a mould cavity, a label location core and a mould core arranged for relative movement and having a first injection configuration in which they co-operate to define the mould void and clamp the label within the mould void and a second non-injection configuration for releasing a moulded article, and wherein the label location core and the mould core are arranged to co-operate in the first injection configuration and define a shut-off volume into which injected material cannot enter.

18. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the shut-off volume is sized to house a lanyard or eyelet attached to the label.

19. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the mould cavity and the mould core abut, in the first injection configuration, to define a portion of the mould void, and the label location core and the mould core abut, in the first injection configuration, to define a further portion of the mould void and clamp the label.

Appl. No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

20. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein a portion of the mould cavity facing the mould core has cut-outs that provide for a particular shape of mould void.

21. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the mould cavity has an opening, the clamping members extend from the mould core, and the label location core, in the injection configuration, extends through the opening towards the mould core and abuts the clamping members.

22. (Currently amended) An In-Mould labelling apparatus comprising:

a multi-portion body defining a mould void and at least one conduit for injecting material into the mould void; and

a plurality of clamping members extending at least partially into the mould void ~~for clamping, wherein the clamping members are adapted to clamp a flexible label at its perimeter within the mould void,~~

wherein the mould cavity has an opening, the clamping members extend from the mould core, and the label location core, in the injection configuration, extends through the opening towards the mould core and abuts the clamping members, and further comprising a bias between the label location core and mould cavity resisting movement of the locating portion through the opening.

23. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 22, further comprising a mechanism for moving the label location core towards the mould core.

Appl. No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

24. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the label location core has a projection or projections towards the mould core for clamping the label.

25. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein the projection is a continuous projection.

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the clamping members are resiliently biased.

27. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the label has a plurality of corners and one of the clamping members is positioned at each corner of the label.

28. (Previously presented) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein each clamping member comprises gripping projections located where the clamping member abuts the label.

29-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently amended) An In-Mould labelling apparatus comprising:

a multi-portion body defining a first mould void and at least one conduit for injecting material into the first mould void, a second mould void and at least one conduit for injecting material into the second mould void ;

means for placing a flexible label so that it extends from the first mould void to the second mould void; and

a plurality of clamping members extending at least partially into the first mould void ~~for clamping,~~ wherein

Appl No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

the clamping members are adapted to clamp the flexible label at its perimeter within the first mould void and a plurality of clamping members extending at least partially into the second mould void for clamping the label at its perimeter within the second mould void.

42. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the multi-portion body further comprises a shut-off volume into which material is not injected, positioned between the first mould void and second mould void, wherein the placed label extends across the shut-off volume.

43-52. (Cancelled)

53. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the clamping members are arranged to clamp the perimeter of the label such that material injected into the mould void deforms the label to press against the multi-portion body.

54. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the label has a first side and a second side and the clamping members are arranged to clamp the perimeter of the label such that material injected into the mould void fills a space between the first side of the label and the multi-portion body and presses the second side of the label against the multi-portion body.

55. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the clamping members and the multi-portion body are adapted to allow the flexible label to flex therebetween during injection of the material into the mould void.

Appl. No.: 10/740,035
Reply to Office Action of: 01/24/2007

56. (New) An apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the apparatus is adapted to encapsulate edges of the flexible label in a groove formed from the material injected into the mould void.